

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/685,793

Examiner

Joseph L. Perrin, Ph.D.

Applicant(s)

CHO, IN HAENG

Art Unit

1746

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 16 October 2003.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 7-33 (renumbered as claims 1-27).
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 16 October 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 09/944,378.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 20031016; 20040701; 20040827
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

EXAMINER'S STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 7-33 are allowed.
2. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:
3. The closest prior art of record, U.S. Patent No. 5,647,231 to Payne *et al.*, discloses storing laundry parameters of a laundry appliance electronic control system in a re-programmable memory. However, Payne *et al.* fails to teach each and every limitation of the instant invention. Specifically, Payne *et al.* fails to teach or suggest the claimed data changing method in a memory of a washing machine including upon receiving a data-change command, the steps of copying the data (program) of a second sector in the memory to an empty third sector, receiving a download of the changed data (changed program) and writing the changed data in the second sector, and subsequently copying the data that excludes the changed data (unchanged parameters from the original program) from the third sector into the second sector, for the purpose of installing a washing program by selectively changing less than all washing parameters in the washing program without completely overwriting the original program.
4. For at least the foregoing reasons, claims 7-33 believed to recite patentable subject matter.
5. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. U.S. Patent No. 6,425,156 to Knopp *et al.*, which discloses a programmable household appliance; U.S. Patent No. 6,241,782 to Vande Haar, which discloses a washing machine with programmed memory; U.S. Patent No. 6,167,358 to Othmer *et al.*, which discloses a method for monitoring plural washing machines by storing use data; U.S. Patent No. 5,960,804 to Cooper *et al.*, which discloses a cycle selection method for a washing machine including automatic selection based on use data; & U.S. Patent No. 5,799,281 to Login *et al.*, which discloses a computer controlled management system for plural washing machines including recording/storing use data.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Joseph L. Perrin, Ph.D. whose telephone number is (571)272-1305. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7:00-4:30, except alternate Fridays.


8. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael E. Barr can be reached on (571)272-1414. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 1746

9. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Joseph L. Perrin, Ph.D.
Examiner
Art Unit 1746

jlj


FRANKIE L. STINSON
PRIMARY EXAMINER
GROUP 3400 1700